

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EB-07 TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01

COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAM-01 PM-04 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4684

INFO AMCONSUL LUANDA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 6222

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, AO, PO

SUBJ: ANGOLAN BANKING SYSTEM

REF: STATE 241602

1. HIGH GOP OFFICIALS TOLD EMBOFFS THAT GOP CONSIDERS ANGOLAN BANKING SYSTEM OUTSIDE ITS PURVIEW. SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TREASURY ARTUR SANTOS SILVA FILHO SAID THAT HIGH COMMISSIONER IN ANGOLA HAS FULL COMPETENCE IN THIS MATTER. ONLY ACTION GOP HAS TAKEN ON THIS MATTER, IN RESPONSE TO MANY INQUIRIES, HAS BEEN TO QUERY HIGH COMMISSIONER BY TELEX ON STATUS OF BANKS. GOP HAS NOT RECEIVED ANSWER. COORDINATION MINISTER ADMIRAL VICTOR CRESPO IS FOLLOWING UP.

2. BANK OF PORTUGAL (BOP) VICE-GOVERNOR ANTONIO COSTA LEAL SAID GOP IS ONLY INVOLVED IN AND RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTIONS TAKEN BY PORTUGUESE BANKING ENTITIES IN ANGOLA UP TO DATE OF TAKEOVER OF BANKING SYSTEM.

3. COMMENT: FILHO DID NOT PRECLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT HIGH COMMISSIONER MIGHT HIMSELF ISSUE DECREE LEGALIZING BANK TAKE-OVER. (CONGEN LUANDA MIGHT WISH TO COMMENT ON PROBABILITY.) HOWEVER, OFFICIALS MAKE CLEAR GOP TAKES VERY NARROW LEGAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POSITION THAT EXISTENCE OF TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT ABSOLVED GOP OF RESPONSIBILITY.
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